

Sensations Come After Day of High Tension In Court Room

PLEAS OF GUILTY STUN GOMPERS

Labor Leader Declares That His Credulity Has Been Imposed Upon.

BOLT OUT OF CLEAR SKY

John Mitchell "Utterly Shocked" When He Hears Sensational News.

New York, December 1.—I am astounded, I am astounded. My credulity has been imposed upon. It is a bolt out of clear sky.

These exclamations were those of Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, when advised tonight of the pleas of guilty in the McNamara case.

Mr. Gompers, on his way from Washington, was dining in a Pullman car on the Pennsylvania Railroad's Congressional Limited when he was awakened at a New Jersey station by an Associated Press representative. He retired to the rear of the car where there was a convenient light and read carefully the accounts of the sensational developments in the Los Angeles dynamite cases.

The veteran labor leader was visibly affected as he read how the men in whose defense he had spoken and worked so untiringly had admitted their guilt. Tears came into his eyes and the hand that held the typed pages shook. He said nothing, however, until he had finished the story and then he broke forth with his exclamations of astonishment and indignation.

"If this is all true my credulity has been imposed upon," he declared. "I am astonished at this news. We have had the gravest assurances given to us by every one connected with the trial, either directly or indirectly, that these men were innocent."

Asked if he would have anything to say about the prisoners personally, the labor leader replied:

"No, I shall not add to their misery by condemnation of them."

Mitchell Utterly Shocked.

Roanoke, Va., December 1.—John Mitchell, vice-president of the American Federation of Labor and former president of the United Mine Workers of America, tonight, when shown the confession of the McNamara brothers, said he was utterly shocked, "confidently expected," he declared, "that the McNamaras would be cleared, and that it would be shown by experts that the Times building was blown up by a gas explosion and not by dynamite."

"From the beginning all of the officers and leaders of the federation agreed with me to withhold judgment until the McNamaras had been given a trial. This comes as a great shock to me."

Mr. Mitchell was here to deliver a lecture to-night. Asked just before entering the hall if he would have any comment to make on the McNamara confession in his lecture, he said positively that he would not.

The labor leader would not express himself as to what effect the confession would have on the cause of labor.

Vindication for Burns.

Crucial December 1.—I consider the outcome a great personal vindication for me," said William J. Burns here to-day, when told by the Associated Press of the sensational developments in the McNamara case at Los Angeles.

"Especially," he added, "after men occupy such exalted positions as Samuel Gompers and others have repeatedly charged me with 'planting' dynamite at Los Angeles. Following them every Socialist paper in the country and every labor paper have to often printed stories of 'frame-ups' in a case that some good people were beginning to think that the prosecution was not 'on the square.'"

I did absolutely no personal feeling against either defendant. I was employed by the government to investigate this case. My sole purpose was to make a thorough inquiry. The evidence was just what I said it was—overwhelming."

Case Will Go On.

Indianapolis, Dec. 1.—The investigation of the Federal government here into the dynamiting cases covers much wider scope than the case at Los Angeles," said United States District Attorney Charles W. Miller, to-night. "The pleas of the McNamara brothers will have no effect or interruption of the government's investigation."

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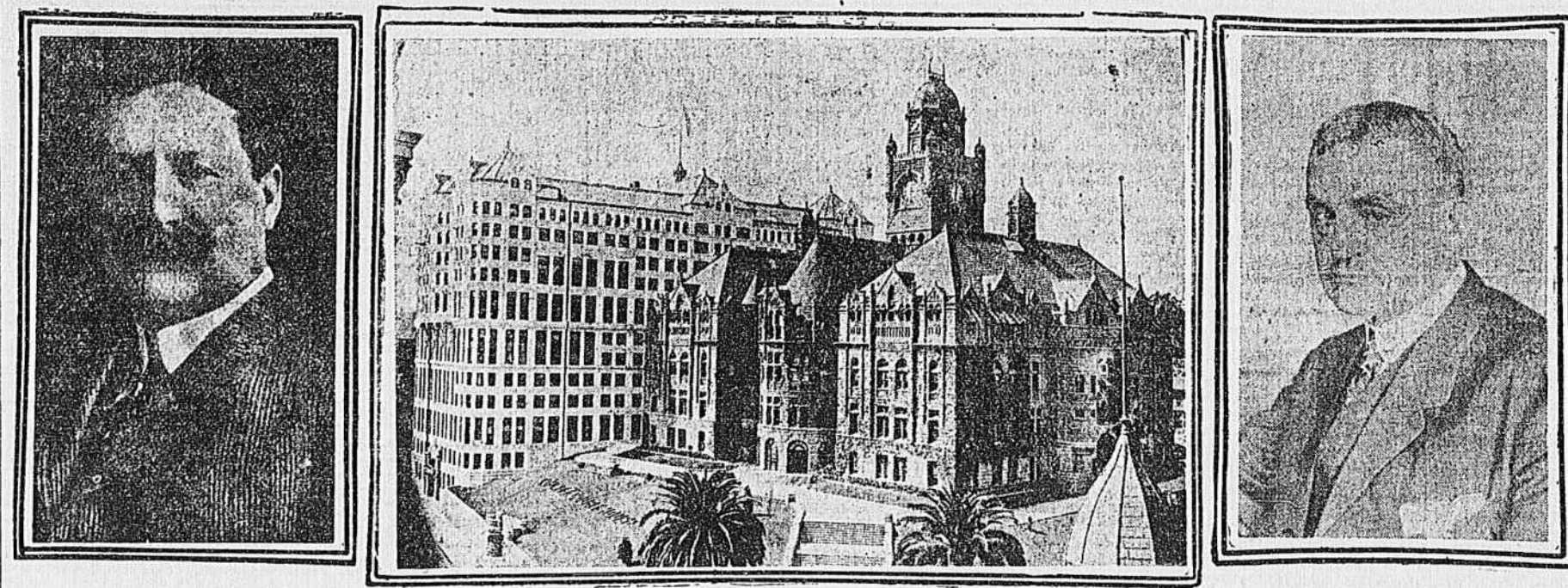
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SCENE AND FIGURES OF McNAMARA TRIAL



Ortle McNamara, who turned State's Clarence Darrow, leading counsel for District Attorney John D. Fredericks, the two McNamara brothers, of Los Angeles. Harrison Gray Otis, owner of Los Angeles Times. W. J. Ford, deputy prosecutor.



Los Angeles Courthouse, scene of the drama.

M'NAMARAS ENTER PLEA OF GUILTY

(Continued From First Page.)

simultaneously with the announcement of the pleas of guilty of John McNamara.

Thin brown curtains shaded a hot sunlight from the room. A mass of heads leaned forward, expectantly as the hour for the reconvening of court approached. Tensely waiting was a squad of newspaper men who had

waded to no avail through a maze of possibilities to-day to determine the reason for the sudden making of the McNamara proceedings. Three little boxes concealing telegraphic wires were prepared for the developments, and the word "guilty" left the mouth of each defendant the news was being flashed across the land.

Willing to sacrifice himself for brother. Seated with District Attorney Fredericks was his entire staff. Facing him were Clarence S. Darrow and three associates. James B. McNamara at first took a seat to one side, as usual, with two deputies, but soon Attorney Joseph Scott beckoned to him. The two men sat together for a few minutes. Scott's arms were about the prisoner's neck and he counseled courage for the supreme crisis. It was James B. McNamara who had balked at entering into an arrangement to plead guilty if it might affect his brother. He was willing to sacrifice himself, but he wanted his brother to go free. The attorneys, however, convinced him that the better course was for both to plead guilty and take their chance on a merciful sentence.

Word that John J. McNamara was coming caused the first ripple of excitement. He had not visited the courtroom since October 11, when the trial was begun and the case of the McNamaras was severed. When he entered it was generally realized that the case had reached a climax.

The ballist rapped louder than usual when Judge Walter Bordwell mounted the bench. Instant silence followed.

The people versus McNamara. The court, and Attorney LeCompte Davis, of the defense, arose.

In this case," he declared, "after long consideration we have concluded to withdraw the plea of not guilty and have the defendant enter a plea of guilty, and the like course we intend to pursue in reference to J. J. McNamara, in the case of the people against him, wherein he is charged with having destroyed the Llewellyn Iron Works."

Mr. Fredericks said: "Mr. J. B. McNamara, will you stand up, please?" The defendant arose.

Mr. Fredericks: "The prisoner answers yes. J. B. McNamara, you have heretofore been arraigned on this indictment, as stated before, and you have withdrawn your plea of not guilty heretofore entered. Do you wish now to plead at this time?"

Mr. Davis: "At this time, yes, sir."

Mr. Fredericks: "This indictment No. 6935, charging you with the crime of murder, do you plead guilty or not guilty?"

now wish to withdraw that plea of not guilty?"

The defendant: "I do."

The defendant: "I do."

Mr. Fredericks: "Guilty, Your Honor."

The court: "Well, I will appoint the time for pronouncing judgment in this case at 10 o'clock A. M. December 3, 1911, which is next Tuesday."

Smile of Relief, Not Exultation.

There was a rush for the inclosure where the attorneys sat when court adjourned. A group flocked around District Attorney Fredericks to congratulate him on the way he had worked to plead guilty because they were glad to see the evidence we gathered showed them guilty beyond any doubt. But as a man, I want to say that if I can recommend a less severe punishment than death or be merciful in any way and at the same time rid the world of its evil, I want to do that thing."

Around Attorney Darrow gathered a crowd, too.

"It was a hard struggle to bring this about," he said, "but it was the best thing that could have happened. I had a long talk with the watchman. I looked the place over and decided it was too well guarded to do anything there. About 7:30 the night of December 24 I placed the whole twelve quarts of 'dope' at the Llewellyn Iron Works, timing it to explode at 2 o'clock."

About 9 o'clock that night I took the Southern Pacific Valley train north to San Francisco, where I remained a few days, and arrived back in Chicago New Year's Day."

His Narrative Stopped.

At this point in McNamara's story Detectives McLaughlin and Barry, who were present, stopped him, saying that as the crimes committed in Los Angeles were few compared with the whole number charged against the McNamara brothers, and of which McNamara was said to have knowledge, it would not do for him to talk too much.

The confessed dynamiter, however, was asked about his confession in which he told of having been instructed to see "the big chief" and a man named "Clancy" in San Francisco before coming to Los Angeles on the Llewellyn job, but the detectives instructed him to mention no person by that name. That statement, however, was made a part of the court proceedings when his wife, Mrs. Emma McNamara, was a witness before the grand jury here last summer.

"I haven't seen my wife since she left here," said McNamara, bitterly. "Darrow promised her a life's living if she deserted me, and she took him up. I suppose she'll soon be selling McNamara buttons again. They ought to be in big demand in the next few days."

McManigal's Story.

McManigal said he first began dynamiting in 1907, in Detroit, Mich., where the Russell Wheel Foundry Company's building, then in course of construction, was destroyed. He skipped that time until a year ago, when he was in the Conover Woods, in Wisconsin, with James B. McNamara, and the latter, said, told him then of having just previously dynamited the Times building.

"I went back to my home in Chicago," he added, "and lay around for a few days. December 8 last, I received a telegram from Indianapolis, signed 'Frank,' asking me to go to that city."

Mr. Fredericks: "Guilty, Your Honor."

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SCORE OF LIVES TAKEN BY CRIME

(Continued From First Page.)

at the officer's orders, and was immediately arrested.

The warrant of arrest and the requisition were read to him, and he was taken away by a detective from Los Angeles. Burns then set out to hunt for evidence which he believed to be in John McNamara's house or office. He went to a farmhouse that had been described to him by Ortle McNamara.

He found the caretaker that he wanted to go along with him, carrying a lantern. In the barn Burns found a box containing more dynamite and a number of small alarm clocks of the kind that had been used in manufacturing the Peoria and Los Angeles bombs. Some correspondence and other interesting articles were gathered up by the detective in his night search.

Following various leads obtained from McNamara and others, Burns discovered dynamite caches in various parts of the country. Meanwhile, the grand jury at Los Angeles had found indictments against the McNamara brothers. The prisoners arrived in Los Angeles on April 23. McNamara was taken before the grand jury, where he repeated his confession made to Burns. The grand jury returned twenty-one new indictments, charging McNamara with blowing up the Llewellyn Iron Works and naming John J. McNamara as a conspirator. James B. McNamara was charged with blowing up the Los Angeles Times, and Milton A. Schmidt and David Caplan were named with him.

Clarence S. Darrow, who had successfully defended Haywood, Moyer and Pettibone at the Boise City trial several years before, took charge of the McNamara case. After many delays the case came to trial on October 11, 1911. The jury has not yet been completed.

Burns was charged with kidnapping John J. McNamara from Indianapolis, and a warrant was issued for his arrest. The Ironworkers' Union made a strong effort to nullify the whole proceedings by which John J. McNamara was conveyed to California. Nothing came of it.

FAST TRAIN DITCHED

Four Persons Killed in Wreck on Illinois Central.

Paducah, Ky., December 1.—Four persons were killed and a score or more injured this evening, according to reports received here, when Illinois Central passenger train No. 19, southbound from Memphis to Louisville, went into the ditch twenty-eight miles east of here. The train is one of the fastest on the system. The spreading rails is said to be the cause. All the nine coaches went into the ditch and then rolled over.

Some of the wreck is remote from wire facilities. The train, said to have been running forty miles an hour, had crossed the Cumberland River and proceeded about a mile and a half when it left the track.

A relief train, carrying surgeons and nurses, was sent from here, and the dead and injured will be brought here.

DANVILLE BANKS MERGE.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)

BELIEVED TO BE SAFE-BREAKERS

Great Secrecy Thrown Around McNamara and McManigal When Arrested.

Detroit, Mich., December 1.—When James B. McNamara and Ortle McNamara were arrested at Woodward Avenue and High Street here, April 12 last, the public gained no knowledge of the charges that were held against the prisoners, and even the Detroit police, who assisted the Chicago detectives in making the arrests, were kept in the dark, as far as any Los Angeles suspicions against the men were concerned. The two prisoners were hurriedly taken to Chicago within a few hours, and it was not until April 23 that the story of their connection with the Los Angeles Times building was made public by the Detroit police. They were registered as Ortle McNamara, 32, and Frank Sullivan, 27, both of Chicago.

Reports gained circulation here that they had been captured upon the eve of initiating a campaign of safe-breaking, and that they had just finished such a campaign in Chicago. It was even hinted that they had gained access to the new \$2,000,000 Michigan Central tunnel under the Detroit River.

James B. McNamara, who sat quietly by while his brother talked, also was born in Cincinnati. His birthday was June 2, 1882. He attended the common schools, and then learned the printer's trade, which he has followed almost continuously ever since, working in job offices in Chicago, Cleveland, Cincinnati and other cities.

"Unlike me," said John J. McNamara, "my brother has never been especially active in trades union affairs."

THE WEATHER.

Forecast: Virginia—Fair south, unsettled, probably light rain Saturday night; Sunday fair, slightly cooler north portion; light to moderate southerly to northwesterly winds.

North Carolina—Fair, warmer Saturday; Sunday fair; light to moderate southwest winds to-morrow.

Special Local Data for Yesterday.

12 noon temperature 48
3 P. M. temperature 53
Minimum temperature up to 5 P. M. 32
Maximum temperature up to 5 P. M. 51
Normal temperature 42
Deficiency in temperature 11
Deficiency in temperature since January 1 151
Accum. deficiency in temperature since January 1 6.42
Accum. deficiency in rainfall since January 1 6.69
Local Observation S. P. M. Yesterday.

Humidity 40
Temperature 40
Wind-direction S. W.
Wind-velocity 6
Weather P. cloudy

CONDITIONS IN IMPORTANT CITIES.

(At 3 P. M. Eastern Standard Time.)

THEIR CAREERS ARE 'UNEVENTFUL'

John J. McNamara Tells How Quiet Lives of Himself and Brother Have Been.

AN INTERVIEW REPRINTED

While Awaiting Trial, Confessed Dynamiter Talks of Work for Organized Labor.

The following interview with John J. McNamara, in which he tells of the "uneventful careers" of himself and brother, was given in the Los Angeles Mail on October 8 and was printed in The Times-Dispatch on the following morning:

Sitting in a corridor just outside his cell in the county jail, John J. McNamara, secretary-treasurer of the International Association of Bridge and Structural Ironworkers, briefly sketched what he termed the uneventful lives of himself and his brother, James B. McNamara.

"I was born in Cincinnati, December 22, 1876," he said. "I am the oldest of six children living. Although there were ten children originally, I attended the common schools in Cincinnati until I was twelve years old, and then took a three-year course in a business college."

"Nothing of any importance happened to me until the panic began in 1892, when I turned my hand to anything and everything to keep the pot boiling, as they say."

"I did my first bridge work at Cincinnati in 1898, joining the union the next year. Between 1898 and 1904, I visited various sections of the Middle West, following my trade and working on steel bridges, viaducts and similar structures."

"I have held all of the offices in local unions, particularly in those of Cleveland, and have attended all the conventions of the International Association since 1902. I was elected second vice-president at the convention at Kansas City in 1903, and was chosen secretary-treasurer at Toronto in 1904. I have held that office ever since."

"The last building I worked on was the Rockefeller structure in Cleveland. I left that job to go to Toronto, and it was held open for me if I wanted to go back, but I didn't, as I had been made secretary-treasurer and had my time fully taken up with the duties of that office."

"The offices of the International Association were in New York when I was first elected. Later, for sentimental reasons, I was instrumental in having them moved to Cleveland. Two years after the offices were removed there, another change was made to Indianapolis, for the reason that so many labor organizations had their international headquarters there."

"I never planned my life far ahead. The work of an ironworker probably precludes such planning, for such a man does not know when he leaves home in the morning that he will return at night. It probably tends to wards fatalism."

"I wanted to learn of the organization in which I hold office, particularly the legal end of it, and so I attended the Indianapolis College of Law and was admitted to practice in 1909."

"There is little else about my life worth mention. I am an inveterate reader, and always have been, of books treating with economics and industrial matters."

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Unions Demand Death Penalty

St. Joseph, Mo., December 1.—At a meeting of the Central Labor Council of St. Joseph, representing nearly all the labor unions of the city, resolutions were adopted to-night unanimously demanding the death penalty for the McNamaras. Indignation at a high pitch among the union men on account of the affair.

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